
A Celebration of the Life

of

Honorable Earl L. Harris, Sr.



January 1, 1918

December 10, 1988

Wednesday, December 14, 1988

11:00 A.M.

Zion Hill Baptist Church

Hawthorne Avenue and Osborne Terrace

Newark, New Jersey

DR. LAWRENCE C. ROBERT, Officiating

Pastor, First Baptist Church of Nutley

DR. S. HOWARD WOODSON, JR., Presiding

Pastor, Shiloh Baptist Church, Trenton

Order of Celebration

PROCESSIONAL

PROCESSIONAL SCRIPTURE

HYMN First Baptist Church Choir of Nutley

JESUS KEEP ME NEAR THE CROSS

SCRIPTURE:

OLD TESTAMENT Honorable Ralph T. Grant, Jr.

SO LONG, FRIEND, 'TIL WE MEET AGAIN Councilman

NEW TESTAMENT Rev. Charles E. Thomas

Pastor, New Hope Baptist Church, Newark

TRIBUTES:

CITY OF NEWARK Honorable Sharp James
Mayor, City of Newark

COUNTY EXECUTIVE Honorable Nicholas R. Amato

NEWARK CITY COUNCIL Honorable Henry Martinez

SENATE - WYNONA President

A FRIEND Rev. Dr. Arthur D. Jones

CHURCHES OF NEWARK Bishop Chandler Owens

STATE SENATE Honorable Wynona Lipman
Senator

A FRIEND Leonard S. Coleman, Jr.
Kibble-Peabody Investment Brokerage Firm

HYMN First Baptist Church Choir of Nutley

OBITUARY *BOBIE COTTLE* Read Silently

SELECTION First Baptist Church Choir of Nutley

EULOGY Rev. Dr. Lawrence C. Roberts
Pastor, First Baptist Church of Nutley

CLOSING PRAYER Dr. S. Howard Woodson, Jr.
Pastor, Shiloh Baptist Church, Trenton

RECESSIONAL

Obituary

The Honorable Earl L. Harris, Sr. entered this life on January 1, 1918 at Dawson, Georgia. As an only child he was the pride and joy of his mother and father, Delamus and Annie Harris. The Harris' moved to Newark in 1921 and remained here until their demise.

Earl's educational pursuits took him to Monmouth Street School, Arts High School and Virginia State College. Never one to settle for the mediocre he set his eyes on the prize...serving his community; this he did with class, sensitivity and a deep reverence for the positions he held. Earl was affectionately called "The Fox" because of his keen insight into the political maze. He served as a role model for every elected official in this area. He was a "doer"...he got the job done.

Because of his commitment to education, Essex County College stands as a beacon of educational hope...because of his love for the little people, he fathered the rent control ordinance that's part of the legal structure of Newark, New Jersey. Earl's commitment to social change caused Kenneth A. Gibson to be elected the first black mayor of a northeastern city. In the midst of the civil rights movement, Earl walked hand in hand with Dr. King in Selma, Alabama. Always a politician's politician, he was elected to the following offices: 1963, Freeholder for Essex County; from 1970 to 1988, Councilman at Large for the City of Newark, and served as president for eight years. In November of 1986 again the voters elected him to become the Surrogate of the County of Essex. He served every position with integrity and singleness of purpose.

Being a man of destiny, he always kept hope alive. He was united with the First Baptist Church of Nutley, New Jersey, the Reverend Lawrence Roberts, pastor. There with his wife, Audrey, they served their Creator. Earl, more than anyone else knew that "weeping might endure for a night, but joy would come in the morning." His joy came on Saturday morning, December 10, 1988 when the Master gently touched him and said, "Servant well done; enter now into the joys of your Lord".

Obituary, continued

Earl will be sadly missed by his lovely wife, Audrey, six children (born of the union of the late Lenora Harris) Earl, Jr., (Ismael Jamal), Brenda Orange, Sharilyn Allah, Norma J. Jones, Joanne Fardan, and Gary Harris; twelve grandchildren, an aunt, Mamie Harris, numerous relatives and friends. In Earl's own inimitable style, he would say to all of us gathered here today:

"If you can't be a highway, then just be a trail;
If you can't be the sun, be a star. It isn't by size
that you win or you fail; be the best of whatever you
are."

Respectfully Submitted,

THE FAMILY



I've Done My Work

I've done my work
I've song my song
I've done some good
I've done some wrong
And I have gone where I belong
For the LORD has willed it so
He knows my heart
My every thought
He knows what pain
And Joy I've brought
And done the things that
I have been taught
The way to HIM I know
And so farewell my friends
I take my rest
Where sweet wild roses grow
Carrie Jacob Bond

"Our Appreciation"

To the friends of the family for their cards, calls and kind expressions of sympathy who have made our burden of sorrow easier to bear, we thank you and ask that we continue to have an interest in your prayers.

A special THANK YOU to:

Rev. J. R. Stanford, Pastor and members of Zion Hill Baptist Church.

Dr. Lawrence C. Roberts, Pastor, First Baptist Church of Nutley

Dr. S. Howard Woodson, Jr., Pastor, Shiloh Baptist Church, Trenton

The Family wishes to extend an invitation to all to join in a repast here at the church immediately following the interment.

Ballbearers

BERNIE ADAMS	CLARENCE DIGGS
DONALD BRADLEY	JIMMY PARILLO
JOSEPH BRADLEY	FINNIE ALATI
BOBIE COTTLE	ALONZO KITTRELS

Honorary Ballbearers

HONORABLE KENNETH GIBSON, Former Mayor, City of Newark
HONORABLE HARDGE DAVIS, JR., Deputy Surrogate of Essex County
HONORABLE HENRY A. MARTINEZ, City Council President
HONORABLE GEORGE BRANCH, Councilman
HONORABLE ANTHONY CARRINO, Councilman
HONORABLE RALPH T. GRANT, JR., Councilman
HONORABLE DONALD PAYNE, Congressman/Councilman
HONORABLE RONALD RICE, Senator/Councilman
HONORABLE DONALD TUCKER, Councilman
HONORABLE MARIE VILLANI, Councilwoman

Interment

FAIRMOUNT CEMETERY, Central Avenue, Newark, N.J.

Arrangements by:

WHIGHAM FUNERAL HOME

580 Dr. Martin L. King, Jr. Blvd., Newark, N.J.
